

Maine Revised Statutes
Title 8: AMUSEMENTS AND SPORTS
Chapter 31: GAMBLING CONTROL BOARD

§1011. LICENSE TO OPERATE

The board shall exercise authority over the licensing of all persons participating in the operation, distribution and maintenance of slot machines and table games and slot machine facilities and casinos and over the registration of slot machines and table games. [2009, c. 2, §29 (AMD) .]

1. Operator license required for slot machine facility. A person may not operate any slot machine in a slot machine facility in the State unless the person has been issued a license to operate slot machines by the board. A slot machine operator license authorizes a licensee to own or lease slot machines operated at a licensed gambling facility.

[2009, c. 2, §29 (AMD) .]

1-A. Operator license required for casino. A person may not operate both slot machines and table games in the State unless the person has been issued a casino operator license by the board. A casino operator license authorizes a licensee to own or lease slot machines and table games operated at a casino.

[2009, c. 2, §29 (NEW) .]

1-B. Operation of slot machines for training and educational purposes. Notwithstanding subsections 1 and 1-A, an accredited postsecondary institution may possess and operate slot machines and table games for the purposes of training and education. Any casino or slot machine training or education program is subject to approval by the board and must conform to criteria established by the board. Wagers used for slot machine and table game training are for demonstration only.

[2011, c. 585, §1 (NEW) .]

2. Persons eligible for slot machine operator license. The board may accept applications for a license to operate slot machines from any person who is licensed to operate a commercial track that satisfies the following criteria:

A. The commercial track is located at or within a 5-mile radius of the center of a commercial track that conducted harness racing with pari-mutuel wagering on more than 25 days during calendar year 2002; and [2003, c. 687, Pt. A, §5 (NEW); 2003, c. 687, Pt. B, §11 (AFF) .]

B. The operation of slot machines at the commercial track is approved by the voters of the municipality in which the commercial track to be licensed is located by referendum election held at any time after December 31, 2002 and before December 31, 2003. [2009, c. 687, Pt. A, §5 (NEW); 2009, c. 687, Pt. B, §11 (AFF) .]

[2009, c. 2, §29 (AMD) .]

2-A. Persons eligible for casino operator license. The board may accept an application for a casino operator license to operate slot machines and table games at a casino from a commercial track licensed to operate a slot machine facility on January 1, 2011 for the same location where slot machines were operated on January 1, 2011 and any person if that person and casino satisfy the following criteria:

A. The casino is located on a parcel of land in Oxford County that is:

(1) No less than 50 acres in size; and

(2) Located not more than:

- (a) Thirty miles from a Level I or Level II trauma center verified as such by the American College of Surgeons or successor organization;
- (b) Fifteen miles from the main office of a county sheriff;
- (c) Twenty-five miles from the main office of a state police field troop;
- (d) Thirty miles from an interchange of the interstate highway system;
- (e) Ten miles from a fire station;
- (f) Ten miles from a facility at which harness racing was conducted pursuant to a license from the State Harness Racing Commission for the 2009 racing year; and
- (g) One-half mile from a state highway as defined in Title 23, section 1903, subsection 15.

For the purposes of this paragraph, distances are determined by measuring along the most commonly used roadway, as determined by the Department of Transportation; [2011, c. 417, §2 (AMD) .]

B. The criteria adopted through rulemaking by the board regarding the licensing of the operation of slot machines and table games; [2009, c. 2, §29 (NEW) .]

C. The operation of a casino is approved by the voters of the municipality in which the casino to be licensed is located in a referendum election or by a vote of the municipal officers in the municipality in which the casino is to be licensed and located held at any time after October 1, 2009 and on or before December 31, 2011; [2009, c. 2, §29 (NEW) .]

D. The person owns a facility that is within 10 miles of the proposed casino at which harness racing was conducted pursuant to a license from the State Harness Racing Commission for the 2009 racing year; and [2009, c. 2, §29 (NEW) .]

E. The slot machines and table games are located and operated in the casino. [2009, c. 2, §29 (NEW) .]

[2011, c. 417, §2 (AMD) .]

2-B. Licenses for a slot machine facility or casino issued on or after September 1, 2012. Beginning September 1, 2012, the board may not accept any application for an initial license to operate a slot machine facility or casino or any other gambling facility for which the board has licensing authority where slot machines or table games may be operated; except that the board may accept an application submitted by a federally recognized Indian tribe in the State that was licensed to conduct high-stakes beano at a gaming facility in Washington County as of January 1, 2012 if that tribe is authorized expressly by law to operate slot machines at that gaming facility. This subsection does not apply to a casino licensed for operation in the State as of September 1, 2012.

[2011, c. 699, §1 (NEW) .]

3. Requirements for license; continued commercial track licensure. The board may not issue a license to operate a slot machine facility or a casino to any person unless that person demonstrates compliance with the qualifications set forth in sections 1016 and 1019. To maintain eligibility for a slot machine operator license or a casino operator license under subsection 2-A issued to a commercial track with slot machines, a licensed commercial track must at all times maintain a license to operate a commercial track without lapse, suspension or revocation.

[2011, c. 417, §3 (AMD) .]

4. Requirement for license; agreement with municipality where slot machines are located. A slot machine operator shall enter into an agreement with the municipality where the slot machine operator's slot machines are located that provides for revenue sharing or other compensation, including, but not limited to, a provision requiring the preparation, in conjunction with the municipality, of a security plan for the premises on which the slot machines are located. The revenue-sharing agreement must provide for a minimum payment to the municipality of 3% of the net slot machine income derived from the machines located in the municipality.

[2005, c. 663, §6 (AMD) .]

5. Renewal. Licenses to operate slot machine facilities or a casino may be renewed upon application for renewal in accordance with this subchapter, subject to board rules.

[2009, c. 2, §29 (AMD) .]

SECTION HISTORY

2003, c. 687, §A5 (NEW). 2003, c. 687, §B11 (AFF). 2005, c. 663, §6 (AMD). IB 2009, c. 2, §29 (AMD). 2011, c. 417, §§2, 3 (AMD). 2011, c. 585, §1 (AMD). 2011, c. 699, §1 (AMD).

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